AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 13, of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Meanwhile, the preference data generator 150 receives the preference value and the reference value generated in the preference obtainer 100, generates preference meta-data having at least one feature block, and includes a meta-data updating unit 16 and a metal-data meta-data generating unit 18.

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended version of the Abstract:

A method and apparatus for generating user preference data regarding the color characteristic of an image and a method and apparatus for converting image color preference using the method and apparatus is provided where a preference image comprises an image converted to have a color characteristic that a user prefers with respect to a predetermined reference image, a preference value comprises a color characteristic value of the preference image, and a reference value comprises a color characteristic value of the reference image. The method for generating user preference data comprises (a) obtaining an image color characteristic value of a preference image and a reference image, (b) generating (preference value, reference value) which corresponds to a pair of the preference value and the reference value, and (c) generating the pair (preference value, reference value) as preference meta-data having at least one feature block.—The method for converting image color preference comprises calculating a color characteristic value with respect to an input image, generating preference meta-data

having at least one feature block, the feature block comprising a block header including a feature identifier corresponding to information identifying a color characteristic and at least one feature descriptor including the preference value and the reference value, obtaining a color characteristic value with respect to the input image using the calculated color characteristic value of the input image and the color preference data, and converting the color characteristic of the input image so that the input image has the obtained color characteristic value.